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not on the editor's ability, but on the local obituaries. Wherever the present editor has the opportunity thus to distinguish himself, he shows his own skilled and graceful hand in the work, except (we believe) in the single case of Crawford the sculptor, of whom we have an admirably written memoir of nearly fourteen columns, with the signature G. S. H., — initials which our readers will not find it difficult to interpret.

29.—*History of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.*

By SAMUEL GREENE ARNOLD. Vol. I. 1636—1700. New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1859. 8vo. pp. 574.

WE have the promise of a review of this volume at an early date from a loyal and loving native of Rhode Island, and, in the pendency of this promise, we will only say that the volume shows a fidelity worthy of reliance, a candor that commands respect, and a skill in authorship which must give the writer a high place among American historians. When we wrote what we have about Roger Williams in our review of Dr. Palfrey's new volume, we had not read Mr. Arnold's version of the story. We find that it agrees substantially with Dr. Palfrey's, and confirms to our judgment the opinions to which we gave expression; yet Mr. Arnold himself reaches an opposite conclusion as to the justice of Williams's banishment, by treating his disorganizing opinions as "opinions of a *purely religious nature*."

30.—*The Merchants and Bankers' Register, for the Year 1859.* New York: Published at the Office of the Bankers' Magazine. 8vo. pp. 96 and 156.

THE subject of Free Banking has of late years attracted much attention in the United States. Various States have adopted the system, and others have it under consideration. The chief purpose of this volume is to furnish information on this subject. It contains the Free (or General) banking laws of Massachusetts, New York, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin. From these data may be compiled a system containing the best features of each, rejecting those of an unsuitable nature.

The volume contains, besides, its usual annual list of the banks and private bankers of the United States, of Europe, South America, and elsewhere, and a list of standard works on banking, currency, and kindred subjects.